

February 1, 2012

Dr. Belle S. Wheelan
President, Commission on Colleges
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
1866 Southern Lane
Decatur, GA 30033

Dear Dr. Wheelan,

I write to notify you of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette's intent to request authority to initiate a new program that constitutes a substantive change: a Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.P) within the College of Nursing. The intended date of implementation is August 15, 2012. The University will submit a full Substantive Change Prospectus at least three months prior to initiation.

The University has been laying the foundation for this program for some time and strongly believes that the establishment of this unique program for Louisiana will meet a growing State-demand for education at the highest level of Nursing practice. The program has already been approved by the University's Governing Boards, the University of Louisiana System Board and by the Louisiana Board of Regents. No other D.N.P. program exists at a public University in Louisiana.

The University currently offers M.S. and B.S. degrees in Nursing, and an RN-to-BSN track, and is developing an online R.N.-to-B.S.N. degree program for practicing nurses. The Nursing faculty is highly qualified, with terminal degrees, extensive training, clinical experience and an impressive research and publication record.

The curriculum of the proposed program is summarized in the following table:

Semester I	Semester II	Semester III	Semester IV
Epidemiology (3 cr)	Clinical Scholarship and Analytic Methods for Evidence Based Practice (3 cr)	Health Informatics (3 cr)	Ethics and Health Care Policy (3 cr)
Scholarly Foundations for Advanced Practice (3 cr)	Preventive Care for Populations (3 cr)	Organizational and Systems Leadership (4 cr)	Capstone III
Biostatistics (3 cr)	Capstone II (3 cr)		Practicum III (3 cr)
Capstone I (1 cr)	Practicum II (3 cr)		
Practicum I (1 cr)			
Credit: 11	Credit: 12	Credit: 7	Credit: 9

Again, a full substantive Change Prospectus will be forthcoming at least three months prior to implementation, together with documented approvals from the University of Louisiana System Board and Louisiana Board of Regents.

Thank you for your consideration, and please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any further information.

Sincerely,

Jordan Kellman
Interim Director

cc. President E. Joseph Savoie
Vice President for Academic Affairs Carolyn Bruder
Dr. Nuria Cuevas, Vice President, SACS-COC



**Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
Commission on Colleges
Substantive Change Letter of Notification**

Name of institution: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Name of the change proposed: Initiation of a Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.) Program

Credential(s) involved: Doctor of Nursing Practice

Starting date: August 15, 2012

Closely related programs already approved for the institution:

- Master of Science in Nursing.
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Doctor of Philosophy in Biology